

MT. HOOD NATIONAL FOREST
 ZIGZAG, OR 97049 666-0704 or 622-3191

COOL CREEK TRAIL #794

TRAIL BEGINS: 561 meters (1840 feet) Elevation
 On the south side of Road #12 (2612).

TRAIL ENDS: 1472 meters (4825 feet) Elevation
 At its junction with Hunchback Trail #793.

ACCESS: Follow US 26 to the east edge of Rhododendron. Turn southeast on Road #20 (2620). Follow it 1.1 mile to Still Creek Road #12 (2612). Turn southeast (left) and follow Road #12 (2612) for 1.9 mile. The trailhead is located on the right, parking is on the road shoulder.

ATTRACTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS: Cool Creek Trail provides an excellent opportunity for an early season conditioning hike. The trailhead is usually snow-free in early spring. The trail is very steep, climbing almost 3000 feet in 3 and 1/2 mile, until it reaches huckleberry fields and the Hunchback Ridge near Devil's Peak.

Length: 5.6km (3.5mi.)



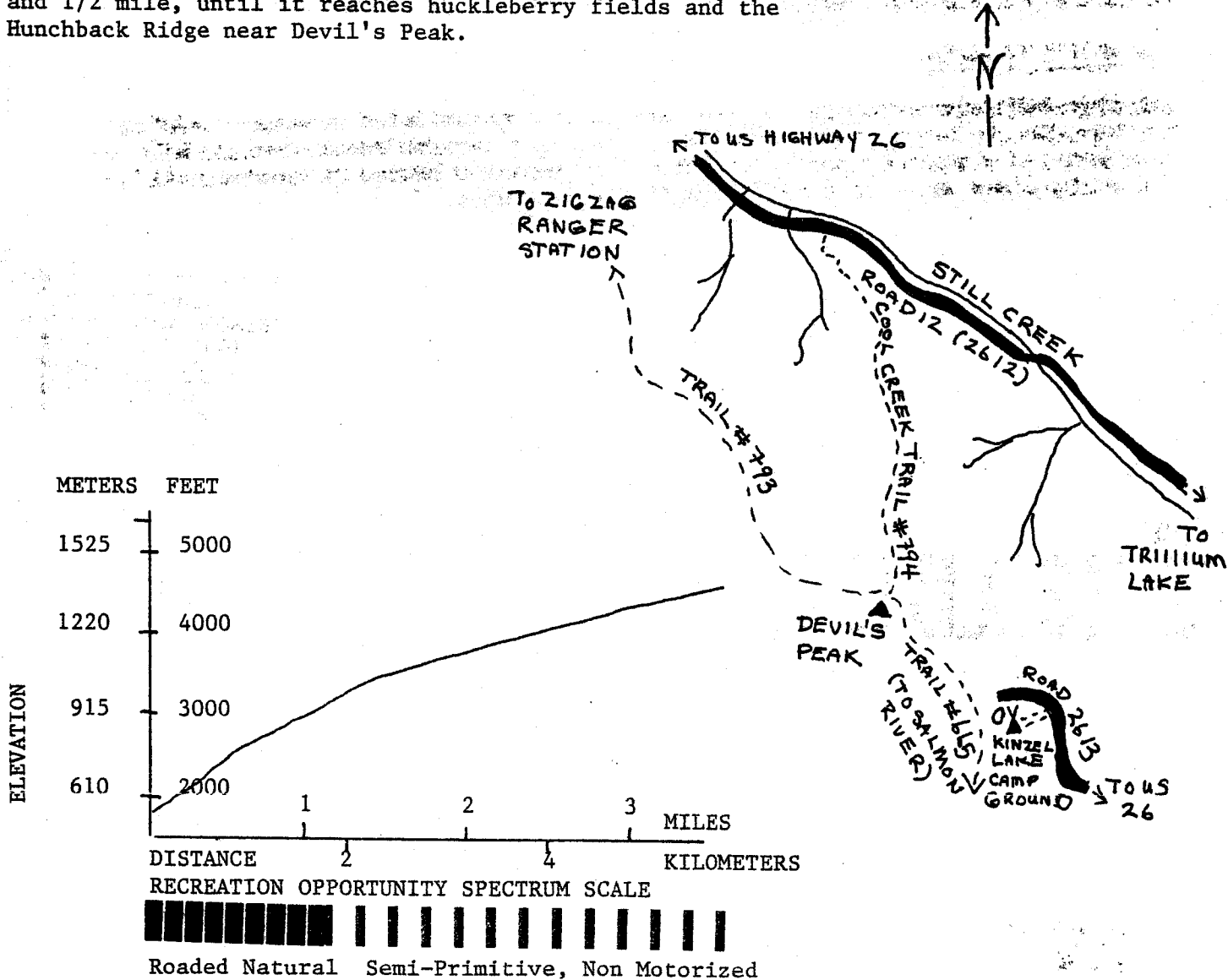
Recommend Season:

SPRING SUMMER FALL WINTER



Use: Light

Difficulty: Most Difficult



NARRATIVE: COOL CREEK TRAIL #794

The lower 3 miles of this trail switchbacks through thick second growth Douglas fir timber. A small stream at 1.5 miles is the only source of water on this trail. The last .5 mile is on an open ridgetop where both excellent views and huckleberries can be found. Just before the trail ends, a helispot is passed on the left.

By traveling .2 mile west on Hunchback Trail, the spur trail to the Devil's Peak Lookout and more dramatic viewpoints can be reached. It is one of the few remaining fire lookouts on the Mt. Hood National Forest.

Cool Creek Trail is basically a rugged, steep, narrow, rutted trail that was constructed at a time when the objective was for fire lookouts to get to the top of a ridge in the shortest amount of time.

Forest regulations prohibit the use of horses and motorized vehicles on this trail as a safety precaution.

WATER STATEMENT

Unfortunately open water sources are easily contaminated by human or animal wastes. Water from springs, lakes, ponds and streams should not be used for drinking without proper treatment. A recommended method of treatment is to bring clear water to a rolling boil for 5 minutes.